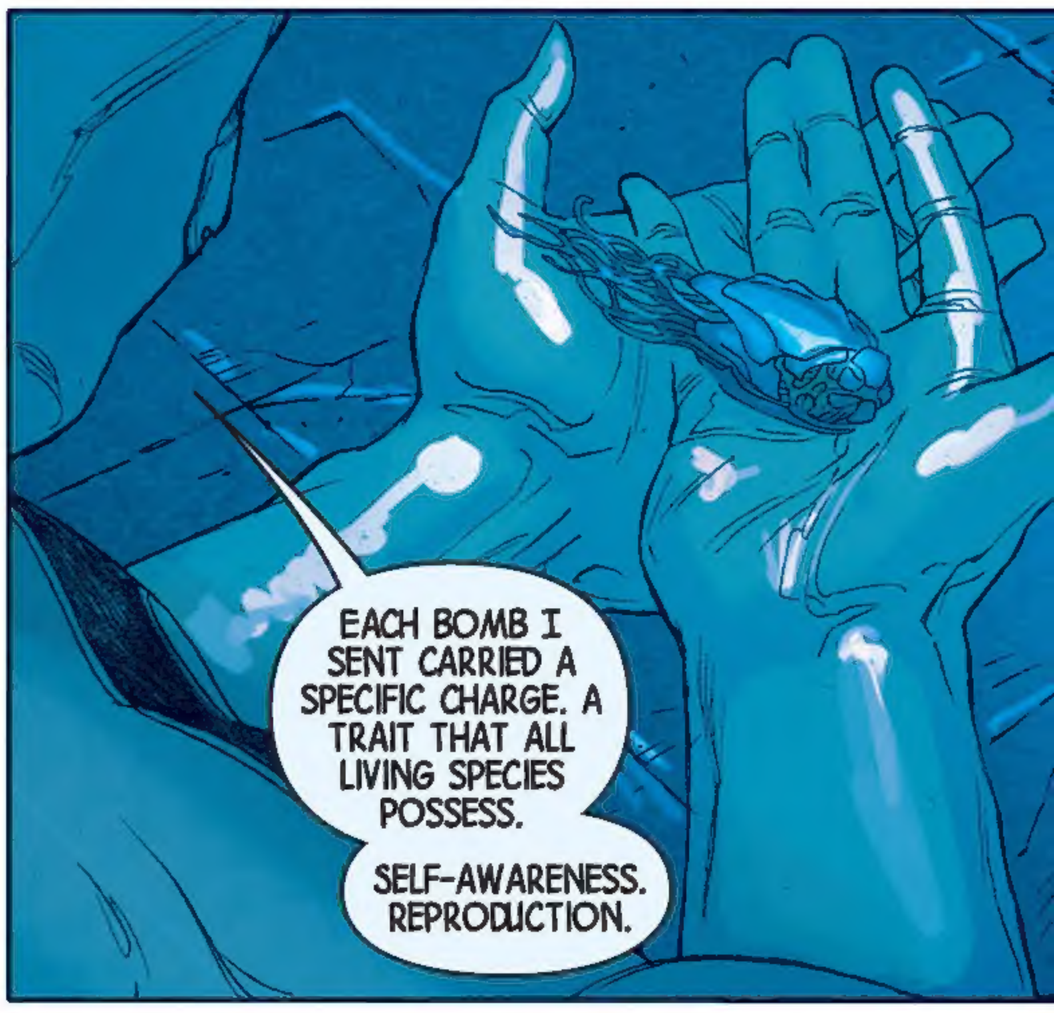
MARVEL NOW!

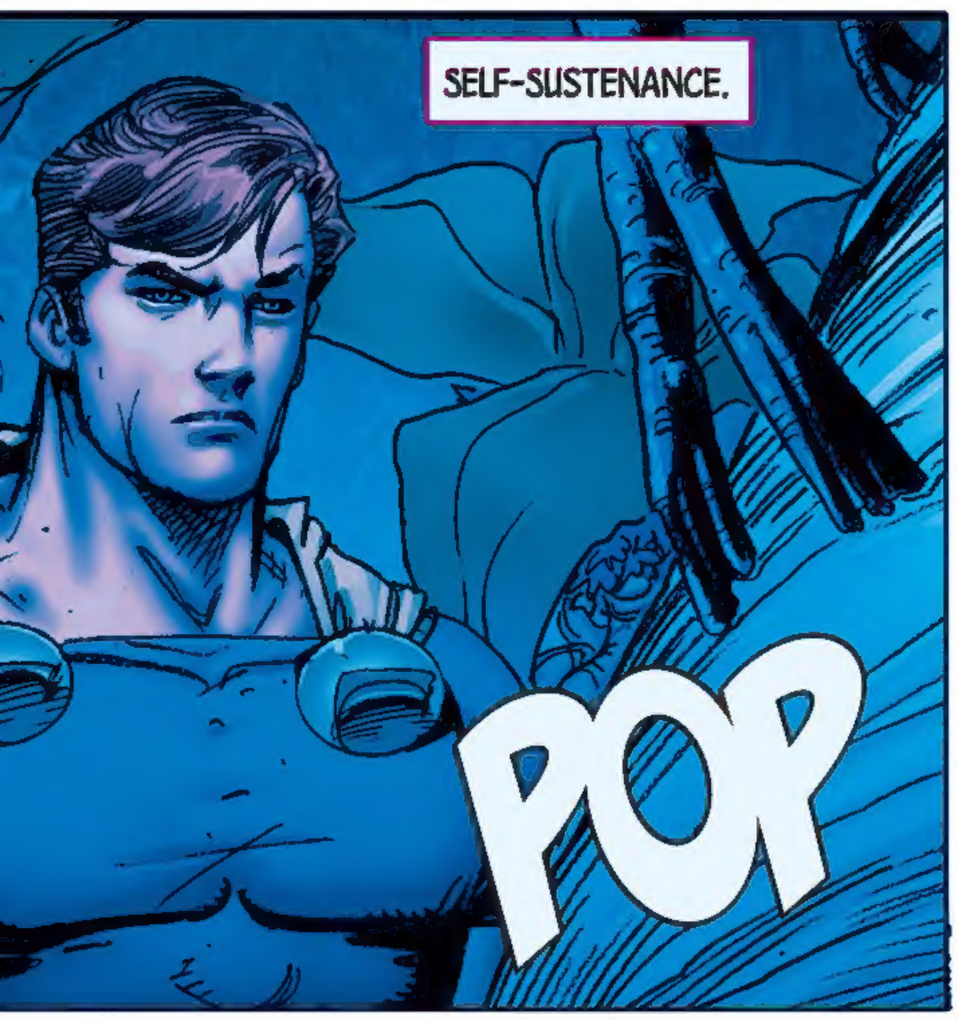
HICKMAN
SPENCER
DEODATO
MARTIN

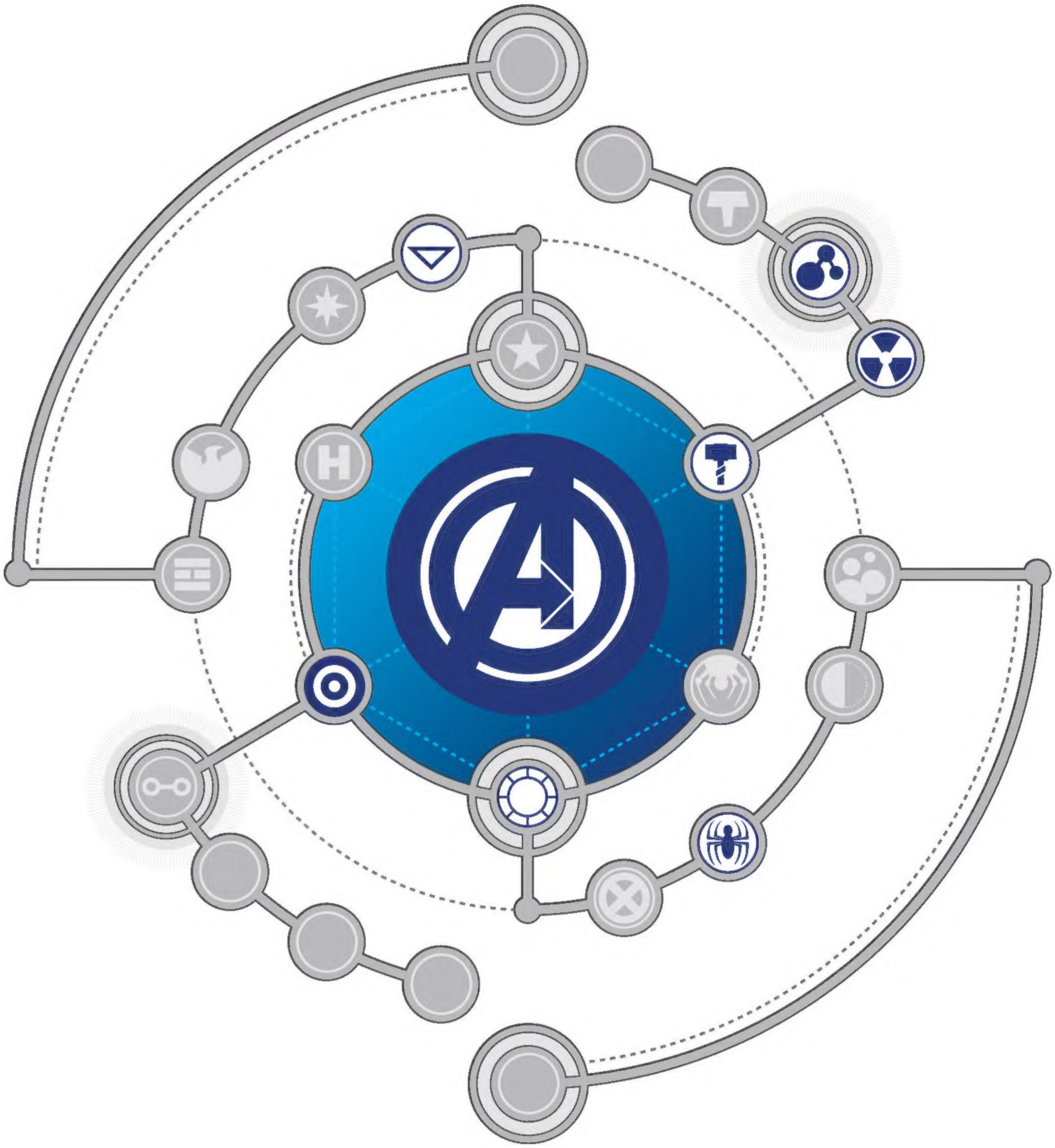
AVENGERS

DUSTIN WEAVER
J-Po

PREVIOUSLY IN AVENGERS







EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

CAPTAIN AMERICA • IRON MAN • THOR • HAWKEYE • BLACK WIDOW • HULK
WOLVERINE • SPIDER-MAN • CAPTAIN MARVEL • SPIDER-WOMAN
FALCON • SHANG-CHI • SUNSPOT • CANNONBALL • MANIFOLD
SMASHER • CAPTAIN UNIVERSE • HYPERION

"THE LEGEND OF CREATION, LAID BARE AND LAUGHING.

"THE UNIVERSE ITSELF BREAKING APART BEFORE THEIR EYES.

HELP THEM, FATHER--"

THEY ARE ONLY MEN.

THOR--A MOMENT?

YOU NEED TO SEE THIS.

SO I'VE BEEN RUNNING SOME DATA ANALYSIS ON THE LITTLE HATCHLINGS FROM THE **GARDEN** SITE HERE IN THE SAVAGE LAND.

I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO FIND THIS FASC...

...CINATING. WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT.

THE HELIX NEBULA. RECORDING AT SEVEN HUNDRED STILLS PER SECOND, ARCHIVE FOR LATER ANALYSIS.

STARK?

OH, SORRY...

I AM HERE, BUT NOT HERE.

THE LATEST IN STARK OMNIVERSAL MULTITASKING AND PRODUCTIVITY SOFTWARE MEANS THAT WHILE I AM INTERFACING WITH YOU, I ALSO HAPPEN TO BE SEVEN HUNDRED LIGHT YEARS AWAY WATCHING CELESTIAL FIREWORKS.

...WITH A TALKING RACOON.

YOU KNOW... IN SPACE.

OF COURSE I KNOW, ANTHONY...

MJOLNIR WAS FORGED IN THE HEART OF A STAR.

RIGHT.

ANYWAY, MY POINT...

THESE KIDS--SINCE THEIR EVOLUTIONARY REBIRTH--THEY'VE BEEN EXHIBITING SOME VERY INTERESTING TRAITS--

SUCH AS?

HERE--

TAKE A LOOK.

ON THE LEFT IS IMMEDIATE, POST-BIRTH, AND AS YOU CAN SEE, THEY'RE ALREADY AT TODDLER STAGE DEVELOPMENT, IN HUMAN TERMS.

"ON THE RIGHT IS WHERE THEY ARE NOW. IT'S BEEN TWO WEEKS, AND ALL OF THEM HAVE GROWN SOMETHING EQUIVALENT TO SEVEN YEARS, RIGHT INTO NASCENT PRE-ADOLESCENCE. AND HERE'S THE REALLY TRICKY BIT--

"IN THAT TIME, NOT ONE OF THEM HAS SLEPT AT ANY POINT. HALF OF THEM STILL HAVEN'T LEARNED TO SIT DOWN. JUST ASK ANY OF THE CHILD CARE SUPPORT TEAM--

"THE ONES THAT HAVEN'T QUIT, I MEAN.

"AND THEN THERE'S THEIR DIET, OR LACK THEREOF."

NO FOOD, NO WATER, PICTURE-PERFECT HEALTH. THERE IS NO BASE-LEVEL ENERGY IN/ENERGY OUT SYSTEM AT PLAY HERE. FOR A MINUTE, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE PHOTOSYNTHETIC, BUT LOOK AT THIS--

THERE ARE NO GILLS-- HELL, NOTHING RESPIRATORY. NOTHING BREAKING ANYTHING DOWN INTO OXYGEN. THEY DON'T BREATHE.

HE'S BEEN IN THERE FOR FOUR HOURS, HE MIGHT NEVER CATCH THAT FISH...BUT HE'S NOT GOING TO STOP.

YOU SEE WHERE I'M GOING WITH THIS, DON'T YOU?

THEY'RE BEYOND HUMAN NOW. MAYBE SOMETHING LIKE YOU.

AND MAYBE SOMETHING MORE.

PERHAPS THEY ARE WHAT'S NEXT FOR THIS WORLD... MAYBE THEY'RE SOMETHING BETTER.

AYE, HYPERION, MAYBE THEY ARE...BUT AS THE ALL-FATHER HAS OFTEN SAID, CHILDREN NEED SHAPING.

RIGHT. AT SOME POINT, SOMEONE'S GOING TO NEED TO INTEGRATE THESE KIDS INTO A LARGER SYSTEM.

AND WHEN WE DO THAT? WELL, LOOK--SCARCITY, NEED, DESIRE--UGLY AS THESE THINGS CAN BE, THEY'RE THE FUNDAMENTAL BUILDING BLOCKS OF MOST ANY SOCIETAL STRUCTURE.

WITH NOTHING TO LOSE, THERE'S NO SACRIFICE. WHEN YOU NEED FOR NOTHING, DO YOU DREAM OF ANYTHING? FROM STRUGGLE COMES VIRTUE. IT'S PART OF OUR NATURE.

AND IF IT'S NOT PART OF THEIRS--

THEN I WILL TEACH THEM, AND THEY WILL LEARN.

PERHAPS, WE CAN LEARN FROM THEM ALSO.

IT IS A WORTHY CAUSE...

ONE THAT YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE TO UNDERTAKE ALONE.

AND SO YOU WILL NOT.

"EVOLVE"

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THE SAVAGE LAND.

MY MEMORIES ARE STORED IN LIGHT.

MY MIND, A NONLINEAR, PHOTONIC ARRAY WITH VIRTUALLY INSTANTANEOUS RECALL, MEANING THERE IS LITTLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NOW, AND THEN.

MY MEMORIES, ALWAYS DOMINATED BY MY LIFE'S MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENT.

YESTERDAY, I SAW MY EARTH COLLIDE WITH ANOTHER EARTH AND DIE. I SEE IT NOW, AND I WILL SEE IT TOMORROW.

SO I WORK TO CREATE BETTER MEMORIES, I WORK TO MAKE THIS WORLD BETTER.

I WORK TO *SAVE* IT.

WE'VE BROKEN THE CHILDREN INTO SMALL GROUPS FOR AN INFORMAL, HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPERIENCE WITH THEIR DESIGNATED INSTRUCTOR.

THE HOPE IS IF WE CAN MAKE THE PROCESS OF DISCOVERY SOMETHING INTIMATE, AND INDIVIDUALIZED, THEY'LL IN TURN WANT TO SHARE THAT NEW KNOWLEDGE WITH THEIR PEERS OUTSIDE THE GROUP--

TEACHING THEM THE INHERENT MEANING OF VALUE ITSELF. THAT'S GOOD, HYPERION. I LIKE THAT.

HMM. I'VE TRIED TO TAILOR THESE LESSONS TO SUIT OUR PEOPLE THE BEST I CAN, BUT MY EXPERIENCE IS LIMITED...

SO I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY INPUT YOU MIGHT HAVE REGARDING MY CHOICES.

GOOD IDEA. SO, SPIDER-MAN...

WHAT'S HE SUPPOSED TO BE TEACHING THEM?

--WITH HIM DISTRACTED BY YOUR SUDDEN GENEROSITY, YOU TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO STRIKE--

TRUST.

AND THEN YOU CAN DO WITH YOUR ENEMY AS YOU WILL!

AHEM.

WHAT? LOOK AT THE WORLD AROUND US. THEY NEED TO KNOW HOW TO SURVIVE.

I AGREE. HOWEVER--HOW EXACTLY DOES THIS HELP THEM UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF TRUST?

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS...

BY TEACHING THEM NOT TO GIVE IT SO FREELY.

I'M SURE THINGS ARE GOING VERY WELL FOR THOR'S GROUP.

...AND WHEN THE SUN ROSE, A ROAR ERUPTED FROM THE ARMIES OF ASGARD WHEN THEY SAW THE WARRIORS THREE RETURNING ON THE HORIZON, FOR WITH THEM THEY CARRIED THE HEAD OF THE GREAT BEAST.

THE CELEBRATION THAT FOLLOWED FILLED THE HALLS OF ASGARD. THERE WAS MUCH WINE... AND MUCH...

MUCH...

MUCH OF OTHER THINGS OF WHICH I WILL TELL YOU WHEN YOU ARE A GOOD BIT OLDER.

BUT WHY WE SING OF THIS, WHY THE STORY SURVIVES, THAT IS WHAT MATTERS!

WHY DID THOSE BRAVE WARRIORS STAND AND BE COUNTED ON THAT DAY? WHY DID THEY RISK IT ALL IN THE CAVERNS OF THE NIGHTMARE BEAST? NOT FOR TREASURE--

--BUT FOR GLORY. FOR ASGARD. FOR ALL THAT THEY LOVED.

THERE ARE QUESTS WORTH UNDERTAKING... AND NOW YOU WILL DO THE SAME.

YOU THREE, YOU THREE, AND YOU THREE--THE STONE I JUST THREW IS NO ORDINARY STONE--IT IS THE, EH, THE ROCK OF ETERNAL ENCHANTMENT!

IT WILL BE YOUR FIRST QUEST. TOGETHER, YOUR TEAM WILL WORK TO RETRIEVE IT FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP. MY FAVOR WILL FALL ON THE WORTHY.

WELL? WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

GO! GO NOW!

RUN! RUN LIKE AN ICE GIANT WITH HIS FUNDAMENT IN FLAMES!

WELL, SEE? KIDS HIKING MOUNTAINS LOOKING FOR MAGIC ROCKS. WE'RE OFF TO A STRONG START.

AH, BROTHERS! THIS WAS A WONDERFUL IDEA. IT'S BEEN FAR TOO LONG SINCE I SAW THE JOYFUL SMILES OF CHILDREN. WE SHOULD DRINK NOW. A LOT, AND FOR QUITE SOME TIME...

"FOR THESE ARE GREAT WORKS WE DO."

THEY'RE FIIINE, JESS--

HEY, I'M PRETTY SURE THEY SAW YOU RUBBING THE SUNSCREEN ON MY BACK AND VICE VERSA. I SAY, LESSON LEARNED, KIDDO.

I THINK THE DEAL WAS THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO BE LEARNING SOMETHING. SOMETHING ABOUT ACCOUNTABILITY?

TRUST ME, I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT-- I WAS AN ORPHAN AND LOOK HOW I TURNED OUT.

MM-HM.

MAN, JUST LOOK AT THIS BEACH. LOOK AT ME. LOOK AT YOU...

HEY, LOOK AT WHAT YOU'RE WEARING.

TELL ME... WHAT'S WRONG WITH ANY OF THIS?

HMPH!

JUST DON'T COMPLAIN TO ME WHEN THE MAN FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION BREAKS YOUR LEGS.

FROM THE TOMB OF THE UNDYING ONE, INSIDE THE LONELY MOUNTAIN, GAROKK THE PETRIFIED MAN SEES--AND FEELS--EVERY MOVEMENT OF LIFE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SAVAGE LAND.

HE IS ONE WITH ITS ESSENCE, ITS IMMORTAL GUARDIAN. ITS WATCHER.

THIS PLACE HAS BEEN CHANGED BY THE ORIGIN BOMB--CHAOS INTRODUCED INTO A PLACE OF ONCE-PERFECT ORDER--BUT AS THE CHILDREN BELOW LAUGH AND PLAY, HE FEELS SOMETHING HE THOUGHT LOST TO HIM--

HOPE.

HE WANTS TO SAVOR IT--WANTS TO ENJOY THIS NEW DAWN AND WHAT COMES WITH IT--

BUT THEN HE REMEMBERS THE SHIP...

AND HIS HOPE IS REPLACED BY SOMETHING ALL TOO FAMILIAR--

DREAD.

"TELL ME, HYPERION--"

ON YOUR WORLD--HAD YOU CHILDREN OF YOUR OWN?

NO. NOT FOR A LACK OF DESIRE, MIND YOU, I JUST--I WAS TAUGHT THE THINGS IN FRONT OF ME, THE DUTIES I WAS CHARGED WITH, WERE MORE IMPORTANT.

AND NOW?

I AM NO LONGER THAT MAN.

THERE ARE THOSE THAT FEAR THAT KIND OF CHANGE, BUT THE THINGS WE HAVE SEEN RECENTLY--THE THINGS WE HAVE FOUGHT AGAINST--IF THERE WAS EVER A TIME FOR ONE TO CHANGE THEIR PATH...

YOU'RE TROUBLED.

AYE. THE *FIMBULVINTER* HAS MADE ME MELANCHOLY.

THROUGH RAGNAROK AND CATACLYSM, I HAVE WAGED WAR. COMMANDED THUNDER. BUT WHAT WE FACE--WHAT I SENSE IS COMING--THAT, NONE CAN PREPARE FOR.

THE CAPTAIN, AND STARK, THEY ARE BRAVE MEN. MEN OF HIGH IDEALS.

BUT THE MORTAL LIFE IS BUT THE BLINK OF AN EYE--

AND I DO NOT KNOW IF THEY CAN TRULY COMPREHEND THIS.

NOT AS WE DO, YOU MEAN.

YOU HAVE SEEN THE DEATH OF A WORLD, HYPERION--AND FELT THE NOTHING THAT LIES IN ITS WAKE. I FEAR THERE IS MORE OF THAT AHEAD. MUCH MORE.

SO THIS IS THE WORLD, AND OUR CHILDREN IN IT.

WE EITHER CHOOSE TO BE CRIPPLED BY THAT FEAR, OR WE RAISE THE INNOCENT TO BE STEADFAST. WE TEACH THEM HOPE...

AND THEN BELIEVE IT WILL BE ENOUGH.

EH?

AH-HA! THE STONE IS FOUND, THEN!

AND NOW YOU WOULD BE DECLARED VICTOR, LITTLE ONE?

HM.

WORTHY.

YOU WANT TO UNDERSTAND WHY, DO YOU?

OH! I KNOW! I KNOW THIS ONE!

I CAN TEACH THEM SOMETHING, TOO! I CAN HELP... BE HELPFUL...

ER, I'M NOT SURE THIS IS--

IN ANY WAY SAFE.

HELLO, MY CHILDREN.

YOU HAVE LEARNED MANY THINGS TODAY, HAVEN'T YOU?

EXCITING THINGS. CHALLENGING THINGS. A WAY TO LIVE IN A WORLD THAT IS NOT LIKE YOU.

THESE CREATURES-- THEY RELY ON THE AIR, THE EARTH BENEATH THEIR FEET, OTHER LIFE AROUND THEM--FOR SUSTENANCE. AND YOU HAVE NO SUCH RELIANCE. THAT IS YOUR GIFT.

BUT IF THAT IS SO--WHAT ROLE WILL YOU PLAY IN THIS SYSTEM? WHAT WILL BE YOUR PURPOSE, IN WALKING ALONGSIDE THEM?

TO PROVIDE.

A MAN ASKED EARLIER--IF ONE NEEDS NOTHING, DOES HE DREAM OF ANYTHING?

I *THINK* HE DOES...

A WORLD WITHOUT NEED.

TO BE GIVEN, IS TO KNOW WHAT IT IS TO GIVE. WE KNOW VIRTUE BECAUSE WHILE WE MAY NOT SUFFER, WE CAN HEAR THE SUFFERING OF THOSE AROUND US.

AND IT IS OUR CALLING TO END ALL OF THAT.

TOGETHER.

BAH! MORE SENTIMENTAL HOGWASH FROM THE ETHEREAL PLANE, I SAY.

REMEMBER WHAT UNCLE SPIDER-MAN SAYS, BRATS--IT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD TO LIVE ABOVE THE FOOD CHAIN...

THESE CHILDREN MAY NOT BREATHE AIR, BUT CUT THEM, THEY BLEED. YOU RAISE THEM TO BE MESSIAHS, THEY'LL MAKE FOR WONDERFUL MARTYRS.

"...UNTIL YOU COME ACROSS A PREDATOR."

HE WAS STARTING TO BURN.

AHEM!

ACCOUNTABILITY-- BEING THERE WHEN IT COUNTS.

WHAT KIND OF BEAST IS THIS?

IT'S THE SAVAGE LAND--WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH BIOLOGISTS ON THE PLANET TO CATALOG ALL THE INDIGENOUS SPECIES. QUESTION BECOMES--

IS HE A STRAY, OR A PART OF SOME LARGER PACK? A HUNTER-GATHERER? A SCOUT?

NO, YOU IDIOTS--

--HE'S THE DISTRACTION.

KIDS.

SOMEONE TELL ME HOW THE FANTASTIC FOUR DO IT.

AH, WELCOME-- WELCOME, MY LITTLE ONES.

I HEAR YOU'RE QUITE ADVANCED...

THE BEST THAT NATURAL SELECTION HAS TO OFFER.

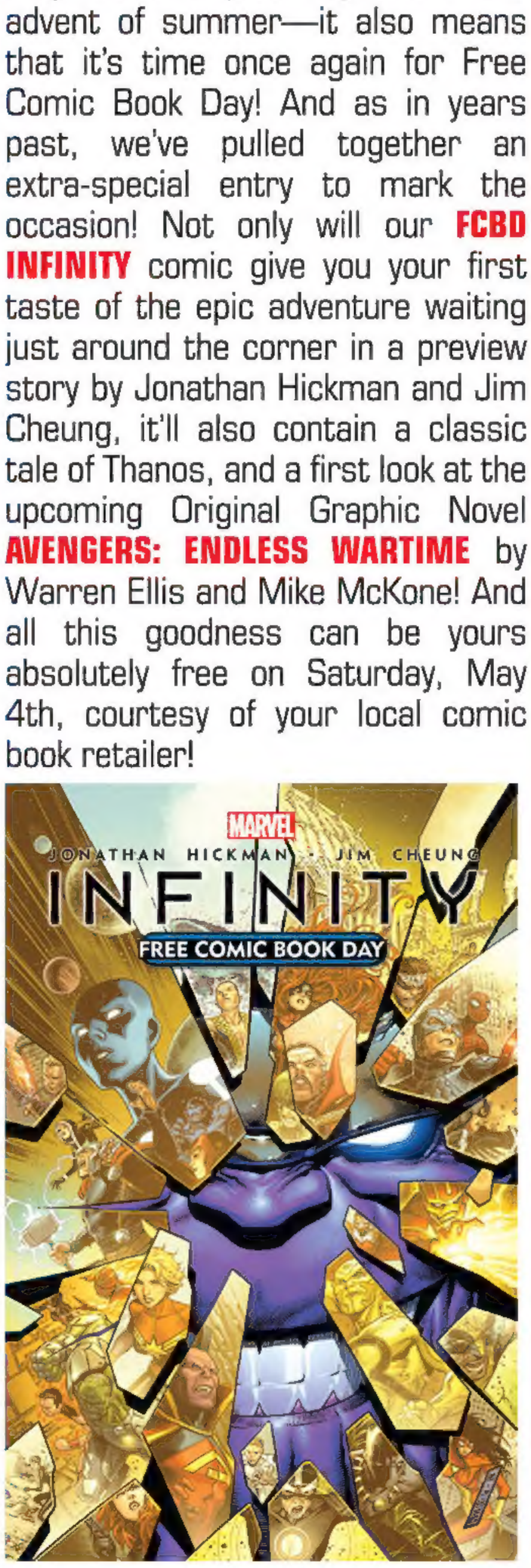
WHAT GOOD FORTUNE THAT THIS PROGRESS HAS CAUGHT THE EYE OF THE ***HIGH EVOLUTIONARY.***

I HAVE THE URGE TO MAKE SOMETHING ***NEW.***

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE-STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

May doesn't just represent the advent of summer—it also means that it's time once again for Free Comic Book Day! And as in years past, we've pulled together an extra-special entry to mark the occasion! Not only will our **FCBD INFINITY** comic give you your first taste of the epic adventure waiting just around the corner in a preview story by Jonathan Hickman and Jim Cheung, it'll also contain a classic tale of Thanos, and a first look at the upcoming Original Graphic Novel **AVENGERS: ENDLESS WARTIME** by Warren Ellis and Mike McKone! And all this goodness can be yours absolutely free on Saturday, May 4th, courtesy of your local comic book retailer!



If you haven't been following the excellent **CAPTAIN MARVEL** series written by Kelly Sue DeConnick, now would be a good time to start! And to motivate you, we're kicking off a little micro-event between that title and KS's other ongoing book, **AVENGERS ASSEMBLE**! It all begins this month in the pages of the special introductory one-shot **AVENGERS: THE ENEMY WITHIN**, as the medical condition that's caused Carol Danvers to be grounded grows worse—and menaces from her and the Avengers' pasts begin to appear from out of nowhere! What's behind it? Check out **AVENGERS: THE ENEMY WITHIN #1** for your first clue—and then follow the story into AVENGERS ASSEMBLE and CAPTAIN MARVEL next month!

MARVEL'S AVENGERS ASSEMBLE takes the adventures of your favorite Super Heroes from the big screen to YOUR screen this summer! Let's do a headcount: Iron Man, Captain America, Thor, Hawkeye, Falcon, Black Widow... and of course... they have a Hulk! Together, they'll face an evil team-up featuring some of the biggest villains in the Marvel Universe: Red Skull, M.O.D.O.K., Dr. Doom, Loki and even Dracula! Assemble your team for the series premiere May 26 at 11am ET/10am CT on Disney XD.

And, alas, it's time for the Epic Fail of the Month:

Dear Sir or Madam,

I recently had the pleasure of reading issue #1 of the NEW AVENGERS. But as an Assyriologist, I would like to lodge a protest against the flippantly incorrect references to and use of the Akkadian and Sumerian languages.

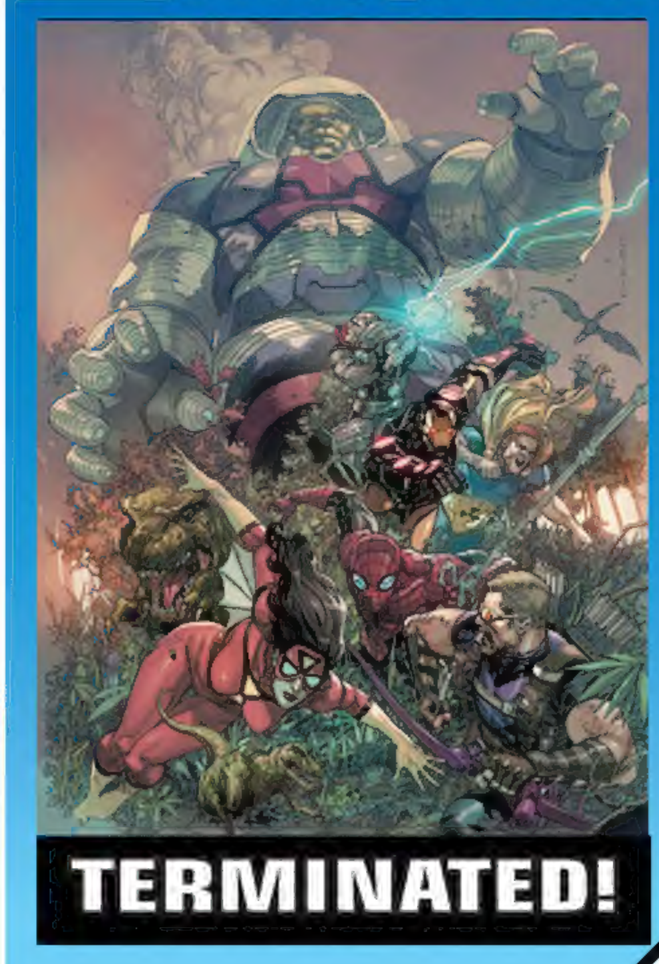
In contrast to the Black Panther's statement, the language is neither Sumerian nor high, but rather obviously Akkadian. The entries seem to be taken directly from a poorly-wrought English-Akkadian word list. Even worse, they were not inflected or brought into any even vaguely suitable grammatical form, on the level of "People called Romans they go the house."

While your work is, as always, of the highest quality, such inaccuracies do a great disservice to both your buying public and to one of the oldest civilizations known to mankind. Had the Sumerians shown the same level of sloppiness when they invented writing, we would never have gotten this show off the ground.

With kind regards,
Christian W. Hess
Universität Leipzig

Seems like there's only one thing we can say in our defense, Christian: Banana ragtime muffin shock!

NEXT ISSUE:



AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE

AVENGERS #11
IN HONG KONG, SHANG-CHI FACES AN ANCIENT ENEMY!

AVENGERS #10
A SOJOURN TO THE SAVAGE LAND TURNS DEADLY!

AVENGERS ARENA #9
WHO IS THE APEX PREDATOR?

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #15AU
AN AGE OF ULTRON TIE-IN! ULTRON ATTACKS THE UNITED KINGDOM!

DARK AVENGERS #190
FINAL ISSUE! WILL ANYONE MAKE IT BACK ALIVE?

NEW AVENGERS #6
THE ILLUMINATI CROSS THE UNCROSSABLE LINE!

SECRET AVENGERS #4
THE HULK! BUT IS HE FRIEND OR FOE?

UNCANNY AVENGERS #8
CAN THOR PREVENT THE FALLING PEAK STATION FROM OBLITERATING BRAZIL?

UNCANNY AVENGERS #8AU
AN AGE OF ULTRON TIE-IN! KANG AND THE APOCALYPSE TWINS ENTER THE AGE!

YOUNG AVENGERS #5
WHAT SACRIFICE WILL THE YOUNG AVENGERS NEED TO MAKE TO SAVE THEIR PARENTS?

AVENGERS: THE ENEMY WITHIN #1
A NIGHTMARE FROM CAPTAIN MARVEL'S PAST BECOMES FLESH IN THE KICKOFF TO THE CAPTAIN MARVEL/AVENGERS ASSEMBLE CROSSOVER!

A + X #8
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND WOLVERINE! HAWKEYE AND DEADPOOL!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #14

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE! E-MAIL US AT: **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM.** PLEASE MARK ALL E-MAILS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**

ZONE